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ABSTRACT

This directory lists over 80 national organizations that provide information, services, and/or referrals to individuals in the disability field, including parents, special educators and general educators, early interventionists, administrators, related services personnel, persons with disabilities, and others. Addresses, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail addresses, and a short description of each organization's activities are provided to help readers identify which resources are best suited to their needs and concerns. The organizations are grouped according to their primary emphasis in the following categories: (1) general disability information; (2) organizations for families; (3) legal rights and information; (4) early intervention; (5) special education; (6) transition; (7) financial assistance and information; and (8) organizations addressing minority concerns. Because many of the organizations have more than one purpose, each section includes a list of relevant organizations that are listed in other areas of the directory. An index at the end of the directory lists the name of each organization and the page number where it is described. (CR)

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National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities: Directory of Organizations

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

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TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

NEWS DIGEST

Directory of Organizations

This *Directory of Organizations* lists many organizations that provide information, services, and/or referrals to individuals in the disability field—parents, special educators and general educators, early interventionists, administrators, related services personnel, persons with disabilities, and others. This directory is *not* a comprehensive listing of organizations. We have selected those that operate on a national level, many of which will be able to direct callers to regional or local resources.

A short description of each organization's activities is provided to help readers identify which resources are best suited to their needs and concerns. The organizations are grouped according to their primary emphasis, as follows: general disability information; information for families; legal rights and information; early intervention; special education; transition; financial assistance and information; and organizations addressing minority and other concerns. Of course, many organizations have more than one purpose, making it difficult to classify them into one category. Therefore, readers will see the words "See Also:" within a particular section; this refers them to organizations listed in other sections of the *Directory*. The Index at the end of this document lists the name of each organization and the page number where it is described.

This directory is similar in format and intent to the directory that the HEATH Resource Center (the clearinghouse on postsecondary education for persons with

disabilities) disseminates. We have purposely not included some disability areas (e.g., accessibility, technology) in our directory, to avoid duplicating HEATH's work. Therefore, readers may find it useful to contact HEATH (listed under "Transition") and request a copy of the *HEATH Resource Directory*.

Due to limited space, this directory **does not include** the names and addresses of the many organizations that provide information and referral on **specific disabilities** (e.g., Spina Bifida Association of America, National Down Syndrome Congress, and so on). If you are interested in identifying and/or contacting such an organization, please call NICHCY

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----|
| General Disability Information | 2 |
| Organizations for Families | 7 |
| Legal Rights and Information | 12 |
| Early Intervention | 14 |
| Special Education | 16 |
| Transition | 20 |
| Financial Assistance and Information .. | 23 |
| Organizations Addressing Minority Concerns | 25 |
| Index of Organizations | 26 |

and we will be pleased to refer you to those organizations dealing with the disability area of concern. We also offer a *National Toll-free Numbers List* and fact sheets on the following disabilities: attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism/PDD, cerebral palsy, deafness and hearing loss, Down syndrome, emotional disturbance, epilepsy, learning disabilities, mental retardation, severe and/or multiple disabilities, speech and language impairments, spina bifida, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairments. Many disability-specific organizations are listed on these materials.

Addresses and telephone numbers of organizations are highly subject to change. If you have difficulty locating an organization listed here, please contact NICHCY at 1-800-695-0285.

In keeping with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the organizations listed in this guide must be accessible to individuals with hearing or speech disabilities. For organizations that have a telephone line dedicated to receiving calls via a special communication device, you will see a specific TTY number listed. If a TTY is not listed, individuals using a TTY will need to contact the organization by using the Telecommunication Relay Service (TRS). The TRS 800 number for the caller is listed in local phone directories under "Telecommunications Relay" or "Relay." To obtain TRS numbers by state, contact the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Information Clearinghouse. Telephone: 1-800-241-1044 (Voice); 1-800-241-1055 (TTY).

General Disability Information

ARCH National Resource Center for Respite and Crisis Care Services

Chapel Hill Training-Outreach Project
800 Eastowne Drive, Suite 105
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(800) 473-1727 (Voice)
(800) 773-5433 (National Respite Locator Service)
(919) 490-5577 (Voice)
E-mail: HN4735@connectinc.com
URL: <http://chtop.com/archbroc.htm>

Resource Useful To: Crisis care and respite care providers, parents, advocates, caregivers

The mission of the Access to Respite Care and Help (ARCH) National Resource Center is to provide support to service providers through training, technical assistance, evaluation, and research. The Center provides a central contact point for the identification and dissemination of materials relevant to crisis and respite care programs. Numerous fact sheets and general resource sheets about respite care and crisis care (including state contact sheets) are available. ARCH also operates the National Respite Locator Service, which will give parents the contact information for the respite care provider nearest them.

Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability

Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health
University of Minnesota, Box 721-UMHC
420 Delaware Street, SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0374
(612) 626-4032 (Voice)
(612) 624-3939 (TTY)
E-mail: c3id@gold.tc.umn.edu
URL: <http://www.peds.umn.edu/centers/c3id>

Resource Useful To: Families; health, education, and social services professionals; advocates

The Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability is dedicated to the study and promotion of the psychological and social well-being of children with chronic illness and disabilities and their families. The Center: (a) conducts research to better understand resilience and social competence across the childhood life span; (b) provides training for health, education, and social service professionals on resiliency and competency in children with disabilities; legal and policy issues; financing and insurance concerns for children and their families; and the special needs of children of color and their families; and (c) disseminates accessible translations of the most current research available.

The Center has one publication, *Children's and Youth's Health Issues*, which details the most current thinking on resilience and ethnicity of and caregiving to children at risk in our society. The Center also produces monographs and other published materials that define the environment, raise questions, identify strategies, or provide clarification of issues critical to providing care for children and their families.

Center for Human disAbilities

George Mason University
4400 University Drive, Mail Stop IF2
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
(800) 333-7958 (Voice/TTY)
(703) 993-3670 (Voice/TTY)
URL: <http://GSE.GMU.EDU/DEPART/CHD/CHD.HTM>

Resource Useful To: Special educators, related services providers, special education administrators, parents, policymakers

The Center for Human disAbilities, a part of the Graduate School of Education of George Mason University, is an interdisciplinary, campus-based organization that focuses on externally funded activities related to improving the lives and productivity of persons with disabilities. The Center engages in technology-related and other projects, including: policy analysis for local, state, and national needs; research and development; and technical assistance to professionals and parents. Major areas of emphasis include assistive and instructional technology, early childhood education, and severe disabilities.

Communication and Information Services

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
Room 3132, Switzer Building
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20202-2524
(202) 205-8241 (Voice/TTY)

Resource Useful To: Individuals with disabilities, families, agencies, information providers, and others

Communication and Information Services (formerly the Clearinghouse on Disability Information) responds to inquiries on a wide range of topics, particularly in the areas of federal funding for programs serving people with disabilities, federal legislation affecting the disability community, and federal programs benefiting people with disabilities. The information center refers callers to appropriate sources of information. The center also distributes publications such as the *Pocket Guide to Federal Help for Individuals with Disabilities* and the

Summary of Existing Legislation Affecting Persons with Disabilities. All services are provided free of charge.

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

1920 Association Drive
Reston, VA 20191-1589
(703) 620-3660 (Voice); (703) 264-9446 (TTY)
E-mail: cec@cec.sped.org
URL: <http://www.cec.sped.org/home.htm>

Resource Useful To: Teachers, administrators, students, parents, related services personnel, and others working with individuals with disabilities and those who are gifted

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the largest international professional organization committed to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities. To this end, CEC shares new knowledge and skills through an annual convention, topical conferences, symposia, and workshops. CEC's 17 divisions provide focus on a wide variety of aspects of special education. Each division develops professional programs and publications geared to respond to areas of particular need and specialization.

As a major publisher of special education literature, CEC also makes a comprehensive publications catalogue available semiannually. Membership journals such as *TEACHING Exceptional Children* and *Exceptional Children* provide a wealth of information on the latest teaching strategies, research, resources, and special education news. For membership and renewal information, call (800) 845-6232 (Voice).

Council on Quality and Leadership in Supports for People with Disabilities

100 West Road, Suite 406
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 583-0060 (Voice)
E-mail: council@acredcouncil.org
URL: <http://www.acredcouncil.org>

Resource Useful To: Agencies serving individuals with disabilities

The Council on Quality and Leadership in Supports for People with Disabilities is a diversified, quality enhancement organization with an international focus in the field of human services, dedicated to ensuring that people with disabilities have full and abundant lives.

Formerly known as the Accreditation Council, the Council conducts international quality enhancement work through: the development of standards and other

measures of quality; the development and dissemination of materials; the provision of training, consultation, and technical assistance; and the operation of an accreditation program. The Council produces a variety of resource materials, including the *Outcome-Based Performance Measures*, *Outcome Measures for Early Childhood Intervention Services*, and other manuals.

Disability Statistics Rehabilitation, Research and Training Center

Institute for Health and Aging
Box 0646, Laurel Heights
San Francisco, CA 94143-0646
(415) 502-5210 (Voice); (415) 502-5217 (TTY)
E-mail: Information_Specialist@quickmail.ucsf.edu
URL: <http://dsc.ucsf.edu>

Resource Useful To: Families, students, researchers

The Disability Statistics Rehabilitation, Research and Training Center provides statistical information on a wide variety of topics concerning disability in the United States. The Center has the most recent published sources of statistical data on disability, including such products as *Disability Statistics Reports* and *Disability Statistics Abstracts*. Data cover: demography; epidemiology; health services use, costs, and coverage; employment and earnings; and social services and benefits. Data are also available on the following national programs: vocational rehabilitation; Medicaid and Medicare; veterans programs; Social Security (SSDI and SSI); and special education.

ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education (ERIC EC)

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
1920 Association Drive
Reston, VA 20191
(800) 328-0272 (Voice); (703) 264-9474 (Voice)
(703) 264-9449 (TTY)
E-mail: ericec@cec.sped.org
URL: <http://www.cec.sped.org/ericec.htm>

Resource Useful To: Teachers, administrators, policymakers, parents, researchers, students, related service personnel, and others working with individuals with disabilities and those who are gifted

Housed at The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), the ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education gathers and disseminates educational information on all disabilities and on giftedness across all age levels. As part of the ERIC network, the clear-

inghouse acquires, selects, abstracts, and indexes the professional literature on disabilities and giftedness for the ERIC database. The Clearinghouse responds to hundreds of requests for information on disability and giftedness each month. The Clearinghouse also develops publications, including digests, research syntheses, and bibliographies; provides information users with references and referrals; and runs custom computer searches of the ERIC and Exceptional Child Education Resources (ECER) databases.

National Council on Disability (NCD)

1331 F Street, N.W., Suite 1050
Washington, DC 20004-1107
(202) 272-2004 (Voice); (202) 272-2074 (TTY)
E-mail: mquigley@ncd.gov
URL: <http://www.ncd.gov>

Resource Useful To: Policymakers, individuals with disabilities

The National Council on Disability is an independent federal agency led by 15 members who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The overall purpose of NCD is to promote policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity to all individuals with disabilities, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability; and to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

National Easter Seal Society

230 West Monroe Street, Suite 1800
Chicago, IL 60606
(800) 221-6827 (Voice); (312) 726-6200 (Voice)
(312) 726-4258 (TTY)
E-mail: nessinfo@seals.com
URL: <http://www.seals.com>

Resource Useful To: Organizations, Easter Seal affiliates, individuals

The National Easter Seal Society provides services that include comprehensive medical or vocational rehabilitation, technological assistance, recreation, equipment loans, public education, advocacy, and programs for the prevention and treatment of disabilities. The Society, acting as headquarters for the federation of 125 local and state organizations, conducts national public awareness campaigns, disseminates information, and advocates on behalf of people with disabilities. To find out about Easter Seals programs and services, you can either

consult your local telephone directory for the location of an Easter Seals affiliate near you, or call the national headquarters, which will refer you to your local affiliate.

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY)

P.O. Box 1492
Washington, DC 20013-1492
(800) 695-0285 (Voice/TTY)
(202) 884-8200 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: nichcy@aed.org
URL: <http://www.nichcy.org>

Resource Useful To: Parents, educators, service providers, individuals with disabilities

NICHCY provides parents, professionals, and others with information on issues of concern to children and youth with disabilities and their families, and referrals to other organizations and sources of assistance. This includes information on specific disabilities, early intervention, special education, related services, transition planning, and a host of other disability issues. Numerous publications are available, including disability fact sheets, state resource sheets (useful for identifying resources within each state), *Transition Summary* and *News Digest* issue briefs, and *Parent Guides*. NICHCY also has many publications available in Spanish. A publications catalog is available upon request.

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)

330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20202
(202) 205-8134 (Voice); (202) 205-9136 (TTY)
URL: <http://www.ed.gov/officer/OSERS/NIDRR/nidrr.html>

Resource Useful To: Professionals, administrators, rehabilitation specialists

Part of the U.S. Department of Education in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, NIDRR provides leadership and support for a national and international program of comprehensive and coordinated research on the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities. NIDRR's mission also encompasses the dissemination of information concerning developments in rehabilitation procedures, including methods and devices that can improve the lives of people of all ages with physical and mental disabilities, especially those with severe disabilities.

One of the most important aspects of research supported by NIDRR is that it helps to assure the integration of persons with disabilities into independent and semi-independent community life. NIDRR funds the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) and ABLEDATA (a database on assistive devices) (see page 21).

National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse

2070 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 450
Vienna, VA 22182
(703) 821-8955, ext. 254
E-mail: nmchc@circsol.com

Resource Useful To: Professionals, educators, policymakers, legislators, families

The National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse distributes current publications on maternal and child health and human genetics issues. Publications cover such topics as pregnancy, nutrition, special health needs, chronic illness, and disabilities. A *Publications Catalog* is available from the clearinghouse. Many items are free; for others, there is a charge. This information is specified in the catalog. While most of the publications are written for a professional audience, the clearinghouse welcomes calls from the general public and can provide referrals to other organizations and sources of assistance.

National Organization on Rare Disorders (NORD)

100 Rt. 37
P.O. Box 8923
New Fairfield, CT 06812-8923
(800) 999-6673 (Voice)
(203) 746-6518 (Voice); (203) 746-6927 (TTY)
E-mail: orphan@nord-rdb.com
URL: <http://www.nord-rdb.com/~orphan>

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals

NORD acts as a clearinghouse, providing callers with information about thousands of rare disorders and bringing families with similar disorders together for mutual support. NORD also promotes research, accumulates and disseminates information about orphan drugs and devices, provides technical assistance to newly organized support groups, and educates the general public and medical professions about diagnosis and treatment of rare disorders. NORD's Rare Disease Database is accessible on its web page. Single written copies of disease information are available through a literature order form.

National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health
Georgetown University Child Development Center
3307 M Street, N.W., Suite 401
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 687-5000 (Voice)
E-mail: gucdc@medlib.georgetown.edu

Resource Useful To: Policymakers and administrators, mental health service providers, and families

The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health (formerly called the CASSP) emphasizes the development of systems of care for children and their families, community-based service approaches, cultural competence, services for special populations of high-risk youth, and strategies for financing services. Policymakers, administrators, service providers, and families interested in finding out about services in their state for children and adolescents who have serious emotional disturbances can contact the Center. They will be put in touch with a state Child Mental Health person or with someone who can inform them about state or local services for children and adolescents with a serious emotional disturbance.

Office of Student Services
National Center for Research in Vocational Education
University of Illinois Site
345 Education Building
1310 South 6th Street
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-0807 (Voice)
E-mail: l-iliff@uiuc.edu
URL: <http://ncrve-oss.ed.uiuc.edu>

Resource Useful To: Vocational and special educators, administrators

The Office of Student Services works nationally to increase vocational program accessibility, quality, and availability for youth and adults from special populations. The Office of Student Services conducts the following services and activities: (a) publication and production of papers and monographs, and presentations at conferences; (b) resource and referral service; (c) initiation and support of networks and professionals; (d) promotion of exemplary programs and adoption of model practices; and (e) collaborative activities with state and national organizations. These activities target *all special populations* in vocational education, including individuals with disabilities. A list of publications is available upon request.

See Also:

Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH), page 7

Beach Center on Families and Disability, page 8

Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, page 9

National Center for Youth with Disabilities, page 21

Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health

Portland State University
P.O. Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751
(800) 628-1696 (Voice); (503) 725-4040
(503) 725-4165 (TTY)
E-mail: stepheb@rri.pdx.edu
URL: <http://www-adm.pdx.edu/user/rri/rtc>

Resource Useful To: Professionals, families whose children have behavioral or emotional disorders

This research and training center clearinghouse provides information and referrals to parents, professionals, and policymakers. The main focus of the Clearinghouse is on addressing children's mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. Available resources include a series of free fact sheets and state resource files. Numerous publications are available as well, including the *National Directory of Organizations Serving Children and Youth with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*. A publication list is available upon request.

Organizations for Families

ACCENT on Information (AOI)

Gillum Road and High Drive
P.O. Box 700
Bloomington, IL 61702
(309) 378-2961 (Voice)
E-mail: acntlvng@aol.com
URL: <http://www.blvd.com/accnt>

Resource Useful To: Individuals with disabilities, families, professionals, service providers

ACCENT on Information is a computerized retrieval system containing information on products and devices that assist persons with physical disabilities. Also available is other how-to information on such topics as: eating, bathing, grooming, clothing, furniture, home management, toilet care, sexuality, mobility, and communication. For a nominal charge, a search of AOI's database is made on the caller's topic of interest. Callers then receive up to 50 of the most recent citations for each search. AOI has two sister services: (a) *ACCENT on Living Magazine*, and (b) ACCENT Books and Products, which publishes and distributes a variety of books of interest to persons with disabilities, along with a buyer's guide that lists equipment devices to assist persons with disabilities in daily living activities.

Access/Abilities

P.O. Box 458
Mill Valley, CA 94942
(415) 388-3250 (Voice)

Resource Useful To: Families, individuals with disabilities, professionals, service providers

Access/Abilities is a consulting, problem-solving firm dedicated to finding resources for a better life beyond functionality and independence. Local as well as national and international resources are available. This organization can provide information about accessible travel opportunities, aids and appliances, sports and recreation programs, good-looking clothing that really fits, shopping, and other customized services. It also offers consulting services concerning architectural barriers and accessibility.

Association for the Care of Children's Health (ACCH)

7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20814
(800) 808-ACCH (Voice); (301) 654-6549 (Voice)
E-mail: acch@clark.net
URL: <http://acch.org>

Resource Useful To: Health professionals, parents, educators

The Association for the Care of Children's Health (ACCH) is a multidisciplinary organization dedicated to improving the ways in which the health care community responds to the unique emotional and developmental needs of children. ACCH sponsors an annual conference for health care providers and consumers, as well as parents.

Resources available from ACCH include books for adults; bibliographies and directories; patient and family education brochures; films and videotapes; and resources for children. ACCH also publishes: (a) *Children's Health Care*, a quarterly research journal; (b) *ACCH News*, a bimonthly newsletter for members; (c) the *ACCH Advocate*, a quarterly magazine-style journal with special feature articles and case studies; and (d) an annual *Membership and Resource Directory*.

Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH)

29 W. Susquehanna Avenue, Suite 210
Baltimore, MD 21204
(410) 828-8274 (Voice); (410) 828-1306 (TTY)
E-mail: tash@tash.org
URL: <http://www.tash.org>

Resource Useful To: Parents, advocates, educators, other professionals

The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH) is concerned about all services to individuals with severe and profound disabilities. TASH advocates for comprehensive, high-quality, inclusive education and habilitative services; disseminates research findings and practical applications for education and habilitation; encourages effective use and sharing of experience and expertise; and supports those actively involved in making the promise of quality education and services a reality.

TASH publishes a monthly newsletter and the quarterly *Journal of the Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps* (JASH). A bibliography of special interest to parents of children with severe disabilities is available from TASH and includes reference materials on advocacy, recreation, and self-help skills development. Requests for information and referral are answered by TASH's Information Department, and a publications and price list can be requested. TASH also maintains a parent-to-parent network for putting inquirers in touch with parents with similar concerns, and maintains a register of professional contact people for assistance on specific problems. TASH sponsors an annual conference and regional workshops.

Beach Center on Families and Disability

University of Kansas
3111 Haworth Hall
Lawrence, KS 66045
(913) 864-7600 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: Beach@doe.lsi.ukans.edu
URL: <http://www.lsi.ukans.edu/beach/beachhp.htm>

Resource Useful To: Families, individuals with disabilities, service providers, professionals

The Beach Center on Families and Disability is a national research and training center with core funding from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research and the University of Kansas. The Beach Center engages in research, training, and dissemination of information relevant to families who have members with developmental disabilities or serious emotional disturbances. The Beach Center's *Families and Disability Newsletter* is published three times a year. A descriptive brochure, the newsletter, and a catalog listing many of the Center's publications are available free of charge upon request.

Courage Center

3915 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422
(612) 588-0811 (Voice); (612) 520-0410 (TTY)

Resource Useful To: Persons with disabilities, parents

Courage Center is a nonprofit organization providing rehabilitation and independent living services for children and adults with physical disabilities and speech, hearing, and vision impairments. Many of the 70 programs are offered throughout MN, WI, ND, SD, and IA; others are available nationally, including ham radio and the transitional living program called Courage Residence.

Services are offered in the following broad areas:

(a) medical rehabilitation and education; (b) camping at the two residential camps in Minnesota; (c) vocational services; (d) sports and recreation; and (e) transitional rehabilitation at Courage Residence and other locations. Literature describing Courage Center's programs is available at no charge. Courage Center publishes a newsletter called *Meeting Ground* (principally for parents of children with disabilities). Subscriptions are free.

Family Resource Center on Disabilities (FRCD)

20 East Jackson Boulevard, Room 900
Chicago, IL 60604
(800) 952-4199 (Voice, toll-free in IL only)
(312) 939-3513 (Voice)
(312) 939-3519 (TTY)

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals

The Family Resource Center on Disabilities (FRCD), formerly known as the Coordinating Council for Handicapped Children, is a coalition of parent and professional organizations that educates and trains parents and professionals on special education rights. Its information and referral service responds to mail and telephone requests for assistance, information, training, and support services.

FRCD publishes manuals (such as *How to Organize an Effective Parent/Advocacy Group and Move Bureaucracies*; *How to Get Services by Being Assertive; Special Education Manual; Rehabilitation Act Manual*; and *Traveling to Tomorrow*); pamphlets (such as *Does Your Child Have Special Education Needs?*; *How to Participate Effectively in Your Child's IEP Meeting*; *The Tax Guide for Parents*; and *How to Prepare for a Successful Due Process Hearing*); factsheets; and a monthly newsletter.

Federation for Children with Special Needs

95 Berkeley Street, Suite 104
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 482-2915 (Voice/TTY)
(800) 331-0688 (Voice, toll-free in MA only)
E-mail: fscninfo@fcsn.org
URL: <http://www.fcsn.org>

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals

The Federation provides a number of services to families of children with special needs. Included in these services are information and referral, training, and education and support groups. The Federation is also the headquarters for TAPP (Technical Assistance for Parent Programs), and for a variety of other state and national programs.

Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

1021 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-2971
(703) 684-7710 (Voice)
E-mail: ffcmh@crosslink.net
URL: <http://www.ffcmh.org>

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals

The Federation is a national parent-run organization focused on the needs of children and youth with emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders and their families. Among the Federation's chief goals are to provide information about and engage in advocacy regarding research, prevention, early intervention, family support, education, transition services, and other services needed by these children and youth and their families. A publications list is available upon request.

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education (NCPIE)

1201 16th Street, N.W., Box 39
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 822-8405, ext. 53
E-mail: ferguson@iel.org
URL: <http://www.ncpie.org>

Resource Useful To: Educational organizations, professionals

NCPIE is a membership coalition dedicated to the development of family/school partnerships in schools throughout the United States. It serves as an advocacy coalition for parent involvement issues and provides a forum for national organizations to share information regarding parent involvement in education. Because NCPIE membership includes the major education associations and advocacy groups in the country, the group is able to present information about a broad range of training, publications, and other available services to promote community involvement, family education, family support, and school/family partnerships.

National Coalition of Title I Chapter I Parents

Edmonds School Building
9th & D Streets, N.E., Room 201
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 547-9286 (Voice)

Resource Useful To: Parents

This coalition is a "grassroots" organization committed to making the needs of educationally disadvantaged children a part of the national agenda. The Coalition was formed in response to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Title I (Public Law 89-10). The organization provides a bimonthly newsletter, national and regional inservice training conferences, and on-site technical assistance workshops. It also provides a variety of information and training services designed to link parents with national and community resources devoted to children.

National Parent Network on Disabilities (NPND)

1727 King Street, Suite 305
Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 684-6763 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: npnd@cs.com
URL: <http://www.npnd.org>

Resource Useful To: Parents, parent groups, educators, other professionals

The National Parent Network on Disabilities (NPND) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children, youth, and adults with disabilities and their families. NPND is the first national-level umbrella organization designed to unite individual parents, family members, grassroots parent groups, statewide parent centers, and coalitions from across the nation. NPND's goals focus on consolidating, coordinating, communicating, disseminating, mediating, and advocating on behalf of the needs of people with disabilities and their families. It also serves as a national information, referral, and resource center and fosters the growth of parents through sharing the experience, strength, and hope of other parents who have worked through the system. Among some of the services that NPND currently provides are: legislative representation, reference and referral, national conferences, outreach to parents, materials development and distribution, and a database to link parents to local, state, regional, national, and/or international services.

National Parent to Parent Support and Information System, Inc. (NPPSIS)

P.O. Box 907
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
(800) 651-1151(Voice); (706) 632-8822 (Voice)
E-mail: Judd103w@wonder.em.cdc.gov
URL: <http://www.nppsis.org>

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals, health-related disability organizations

The National Parent to Parent Support and Information System (NPPSIS) is an international, nonprofit organization that exists to strengthen, support, and empower families by establishing one-to-one, parent to parent contacts, and to enhance the ability of parents to access services and resources for children with special needs by providing information and resources to parents, professionals, and other health-related disability organizations.

Parents Helping Parents:

The Parent-Directed Family Resource Center for Children with Special Needs
3041 Olcott Street
Santa Clara, CA 95054-3222
(408) 727-5775 (Voice)
E-mail: info@php.com
URL: <http://www.php.com>

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals, self-help support groups serving children with special needs

Parents Helping Parents (PHP) is a comprehensive family resource center and Parent Training and Information Center. By strengthening families and professionals, the Center endeavors to help children with special needs receive the love, hope, respect, and services they need to achieve their full potential. PHP runs the National Center for Parent-Directed Family Resource Centers with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health.

PHP provides *information*, such as a library, newsletter, resources, and referrals; *support*, including parent-to-parent matches, sibling fun days, and over 20 specialty groups; and *training* on individualized education programs (IEPs), supplemental security income (SSI), and more. Specific projects include developing manuals and program packets, conducting regional conferences and workshops on a national level, and providing technical assistance to emerging Family Resource Centers.

Parent Training and Information (PTI) Centers

Resource Useful To: Parents and families

Parent Training and Information (PTI) centers exist in each state to assist parents of infants, children, and youth with disabilities. Although PTI activities vary from state to state, typically parents receive training individually and in groups to understand their rights under federal and state law and to develop skills to enable them to be effective members of the team in planning an appropriate educational program for their child. Speakers and workshops are often scheduled to address parents' rights and responsibilities in special education, communication skills, transition from school to independent living, inclusion of students with disabilities, networking, advocacy, and parent/ professional partnerships. Many PTIs have lending libraries, publish newsletters, and make other materials available to families. To find out about the PTI for your state, you

can either call NICHCY at 1-800-695-0285, or contact the Technical Assistance for Parent Programs (TAPP) at (617) 482-2915. TAPP is described below.

Technical Assistance for Parent Programs (TAPP)

Federation for Children with Special Needs
95 Berkeley Street, Suite 104
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 482-2915 (Voice/TTY)
(800) 331-0688 (Voice, toll-free in MA only)
E-mail: fcsninfo@fcsn.org
URL: <http://www.fcsn.org/tapp/home.htm>

Resource Useful To: Parent Training and Information (PTI) centers, parent groups, parents

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the federal special education law, establishes a grant program to support organized parent to parent efforts. The purpose of these programs, known as Parent Training and Information (PTI) centers (see previous description), is to enable parents to participate more effectively with professionals in meeting the educational needs of children with disabilities.

The TAPP Project's primary responsibility is to serve PTIs that are currently funded under IDEA. Grassroots groups in urban and rural settings are served through the Experimental PTI Project Initiative. PTIs seeking specialized help in the areas of Transition and Supported Employment are served through the SEPTA/TA Project. Parent organizations and groups meeting specific criteria set forth in IDEA wishing to establish a program under this grant authority may also receive assistance through TAPP.

See Also:

- Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability, page 2
- Head Start, page 14
- National Center for Youth with Disabilities, page 21
- National Easter Seal Society, page 4
- National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), page 5
- National Organization on Rare Disorders, page 5
- National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health, page 6
- Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health, page 6
- Rural Institute on Disabilities, page 19
- Scottish Rite Centers, page 15
- Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, page 24
- University Affiliated Programs, page 24

Legal Rights and Information

Center for Law and Education

197 Friend Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 371-1166 (Voice/TTY)

Resource Useful To: Advocates (working with low-income students and families)

The Center for Law and Education provides support services on education issues to advocates working on behalf of low-income students and parents. Its mission is to take a leadership role in improving the quality of public education for low-income students throughout the nation and to enable low-income communities to address their own public education problems effectively.

The Center provides specialized legal assistance on a fee-for-service basis to Protection and Advocacy attorneys as well as other attorneys who are seeking to improve educational outcomes for students. Center activities include: advice and collaboration on cases, publications, training, litigation, and assisting parent and student involvement in education. Publications include several resources for special education advocates, such as *Educational Rights of Children with Disabilities: A Primer for Advocates*.

Children's Defense Fund (CDF)

25 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 628-8787 (Voice)
E-mail: cdfinfo@childrensdefense.org
URL: <http://www.childrensdefense.org>

Resource Useful To: Individuals and organizations concerned with the welfare of children

The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) exists to provide a strong and effective voice for all children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. Particular attention is paid to the needs of poor or minority children and those who have disabilities. The goal of CDF is to educate the nation about the needs of children and to encourage preventive investment in children before they get sick, drop out of school, suffer family breakdown, or get into trouble.

CDF is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundations, corporations, and individuals. The national

headquarters are in Washington, DC, with regional offices in MN, OH, TX, SC, DC, MS, and NY. CDF has developed collaborative projects with groups and volunteers in many other states as well.

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)

2212 Sixth Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
(800) 466-4232 (Voice/TTY); (510) 644-2555 (Voice)
E-mail: dredfca@aol.com

Resource Useful To: Lawyers, parents, advocates, and others interested in legal information on disabilities and the ADA

DREDF is a national nonprofit organization run primarily by persons with disabilities to achieve the goals of the disability rights movement. It monitors legislative and educational efforts and conducts training and research programs. DREDF has been very active in the training of persons with disabilities and their families in the application of their rights under laws such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. DREDF offers concise and up-to-date information on the civil rights of persons with disabilities to attorneys, federal agencies, and legislators and their staffs. *The Disability Rights Review*, the organization's free quarterly newsletter, reports on legislative and judicial activities affecting disability rights.

Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

1101 15th Street, N.W., Suite 1212
Washington, DC 20005-5002
(202) 467-5730 (Voice)
(202) 467-4232 (TTY)
E-mail: bazelon@nicom.com
URL: <http://www.bazelon.org>

Resource Useful To: Lawyers, advocates, policymakers, parent groups

The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law is the leading national legal advocacy organization representing people with mental illness or mental retardation. Through precedent-setting litigation, public-policy advocacy, and technical support for local

lawyers and other advocates, the Bazelon Center works to define and protect the rights of adults and children who rely on public services and to ensure their equal access to health and mental health care, education, housing, and employment. The Center was founded in 1972 as a nonprofit public-interest organization, the Mental Health Law Project, and rededicated in 1993 to honor the federal judge whose decisions pioneered the field of mental health law. The Center's work is funded primarily by foundations and individual donors.

National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems (NAPAS)

900 Second Street, N.E., Suite 211
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 408-9514 (Voice)
(202) 408-9521 (TTY)
E-mail: hn4537@handsnet.org

Resource Useful To: Individuals with disabilities who need services of the protection and advocacy (P&A) program or the client assistance program (CAP)

The National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NAPAS) is a voluntary membership organization of state programs advocating for the rights of people with developmental disabilities. The membership has four major components: (a) Protection and Advocacy for People with Developmental Disabilities (PADD); (b) Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illnesses (PAIMI); (c) the Client Assistance Program (CAP), which advocates for people seeking vocational rehabilitation services; and (d) Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights (PAIR), which helps people with disabilities who are not eligible for other P&A services, but who need legal representation or related assistance. NAPAS can refer callers to their local P&A or CAP program. NAPAS produces a quarterly newsletter as well as other publications.

National Health Law Program, Inc.

1815 H Street, N.W., Suite 705
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 887-5310 (Voice)
E-mail: brendan@healthlaw.org
URL: <http://www.healthlaw.org>

Resource Useful To: Professionals

Since 1969, the National Health Law Program (NHeLP) has served as a Legal Services National Support Center specializing in health issues for low-income people, minorities, people with disabilities, and the elderly. NHeLP services include: advocacy, referral, research, litigation, and training. NHeLP also publishes a quarterly newsletter, *Health Advocate*.

See Also:

Americans with Disabilities Act Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers (DBTACs), page 20

Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability, page 2

Communication and Information Services, page 3

Family Resource Center on Disabilities, page 8

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), page 5

Parents Helping Parents, page 10

Parent Training and Information (PTI) Centers, page 10

Project ACTION, page 22

Early Intervention

Activating Children Through Technology (ACTT)

Western Illinois University

Macomb Projects

28 Horrabin Hall

Macomb, IL 61455

(309) 298-1634 (Voice)

E-mail: TL-Carley@wiu.edu

URL: <http://www.ecnet.net/users/mimacp/wiu>

Resource Useful To: Families, early childhood teachers, therapists, administrators

Activating Children Through Technology (ACTT) serves as a national distribution point for information on microcomputer technology designed for early childhood programs addressing all types of disabilities. Requests for information on microcomputer hardware, adaptive devices, and curriculum software are answered verbally or with printed materials. Information and training services are available to professionals and families nationwide. Videotapes and software are available (including a CD-Rom, *ArtSpace*, created to teach young children about art, accompanied by a curriculum guide), as are a software catalog and switch book and other written materials, including a curriculum guide called *Building ACTTive Futures*.

Head Start

Consult local telephone directory.

Resource Useful To: Low-income families

Head Start is a national program providing comprehensive services primarily to low-income children, ages three to five, and their families. To help the children achieve their full potential, the program provides services designed to address their emotional, social, health, and psychological needs. Parent participation plays a vital role in the development, conduct, and direction of local Head Start programs. Parents receive training and education to foster their understanding of and involvement in the development of their children.

Head Start is required to have at least 10 percent of its enrollment be children with disabilities. As the largest provider of services for preschool children with disabilities in a mainstream setting in the nation, Head Start represents one valuable preschool option for low-income families who have a child with a disability. To find out

whether a Head Start program exists in your area, contact your local school system, your county/district education office, or a child care referral agency in your community (often provided through a local government agency). Head Start may also be listed in the telephone directory (yellow pages) under a variety of names (e.g., Head Start, preschool programs, early childhood).

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

1509 16th Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20036-1426

(800) 424-2460 (Voice); (202) 232-8777 (Voice)

E-mail: aauj82d@prodigy.com

URL: <http://www.america-tomorrow.com/naeyc>

Resource Useful To: Early childhood educators

As the largest professional association of early childhood educators, with more than 95,000 members, the National Association for the Education of Young Children is committed to improving the quality of early childhood programs for children birth through age eight. A division of NAEYC, the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs administers a national accreditation system for center-based, early childhood programs. Another division of NAEYC, the National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, provides resources and services to improve early childhood professional preparation and development. NAEYC publishes a peer reviewed journal, *Young Children*, featuring the latest in childhood research, theory, and practice. It also produces books, brochures, posters, and videos to expand the knowledge of and commitment to children of early childhood professionals, parents, and concerned citizens.

National Center for Children in Poverty

Columbia University School of Public Health

154 Haven Avenue

New York, NY 10032

(212) 304-7100 (Voice)

URL: <http://cait.cpmc.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/>

Resource Useful To: Policymakers, administrators, practitioners, researchers

The Center's goal is to strengthen programs and policies and to heighten awareness of opportunities that will

improve the quality of life and future prospects of poor families and their young children. Efforts are focused on early intervention programs for children through age 5 in areas of maternal and child health, service integration for low-income families with young children, and early childhood education and development. The Center can supply statistical and factual information, descriptions of successful programs, and bibliographies on issues related to children and poverty. Numerous publications are available or forthcoming on topics such as: early education/preschool programs, child care for low-income families, service integration strategies, the impact of poverty on child health and development, and child welfare reform.

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System (NEC*TAS)

Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center
University of North Carolina
500 NationsBank Plaza
137 E. Franklin Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(919) 962-2001 (Voice); (919) 966-4041 (TTY)
E-mail: nectasta.nectas@mhs.unc.edu
URL: <http://www.nectas.unc.edu>

Resource Useful To: State education agencies, EEPED projects, other professionals

NEC*TAS assists states and others in developing multidisciplinary, coordinated, culturally sensitive, and comprehensive services for children with special needs (birth through eight years old) and their families. Although the main focus of NEC*TAS is providing support to states, technical assistance is also available to projects in the Early Education Program for Children with Disabilities (EEPCD). Services to clients include: needs assessments, individualized technical assistance, publications in print and electronic formats, meetings, and information referral. Services to other entities include: selected publications in print and electronic formats and resource referrals.

Scottish Rite Centers

1733 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20009-3199
(202) 232-3579 (Voice)

Resource Useful To: Children with childhood language disorders and their families

The Scottish Rite Centers for Childhood Language Disorders provide diagnostic evaluation and treatment

of childhood language disorders and associated learning disabilities. These services are available to preschool children and those in early grades who have difficulty speaking or understanding the spoken word. There are more than 100 centers located throughout the United States, making services available to children regardless of race or creed or the family's ability to pay. Parents who are concerned about their child's language or learning ability can call 1-800-SR-MASON to locate the nearest Scottish Rite Center, or contact appropriate organizations at the local or state level.

ZERO TO THREE: National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families

734 15th Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005-1036
(202) 638-1144 (Voice); (800) 899-4301 (Publications)

Resource Useful To: Early childhood educators, families, service providers

ZERO TO THREE is dedicated to promoting the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of children from birth to age three, and to supporting their families and caregivers. ZERO TO THREE provides training and technical assistance to new Early Head Start Programs, publishes a bimonthly bulletin, *Zero To Three*, conducts an annual National Training Institute, and works in many other ways to promote the healthy development of babies and young children.

See Also:

- Association for the Care of Children's Health, page 7
- Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability, page 2
- Center for Human disAbilities, page 3
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), page 3
- National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), page 5
- Regional Resource Centers, page 18

Special Education

American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES)

Department of Special Education
University of Utah
221 Milton Bennion Hall
Salt Lake City, UT 84112
(801) 585-5659 (Voice)
E-mail: acres@gse.utah.edu

Resource Useful To: Special educators, service providers, administrators, teacher trainers working in rural areas

The American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES) is a membership organization of individuals and organizations interested in improving services for students with disabilities living in rural areas. A brochure on ACRES is available upon request. Members receive a newsletter, *RuralLink*, published every six weeks; the *Rural Special Education Quarterly*, which reports on practices, trends, and issues in rural special education delivery; and discounts on other ACRES publications. Through special interest groups, members can interact with individuals who share common interests and concerns. ACRES' Rural and Small Schools Library represents a collection of reports, monographs, teaching modules, and resource materials.

Council of Administrators of Special Education
615 16th Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, NM 87104
(505) 243-7622 (Voice)
E-mail: thomason@apsicc.aps.edu

Resource Useful To: Administrators

The Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) is a professional organization and support group serving special education administrators throughout the United States and Canada. A division of the Council for Exceptional Children, CASE is organized to promote professional leadership, provide opportunity for study of problems common to its members, and communicate through discussion and publications information that will lead to improved services for exceptional children.

CASE provides support by holding one International Conference on Public Policy in Special Education and one Institute each year. Each year members receive five newsletters and two issues of the journal *CASE in POINT*. CASE provides members with a catalog of

books and videos of interest to administrators and publishes additional titles through its Research and Development Committee.

Federal Resource Center for Special Education

Academy for Educational Development
1875 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 884-8215 (Voice); (202) 884-8200 (TTY)
E-mail: frc@aed.org
URL: <http://www.dssc.org/frc>

Resource Useful To: Regional Resource Centers, local and state education agencies, special education administrators

The Federal Resource Center for Special Education (FRC) facilitates an effective Regional Resource and Federal Centers Network (see below), with the objective of improving educational outcomes for children and youth with disabilities. The FRC also supports a nationwide technical assistance network that responds quickly to the needs of students with disabilities, especially students from underrepresented populations.

National Association of Private Schools for Exceptional Children (NAPSEC)

1522 K Street, N.W., Suite 1032
Washington, DC 20005-1202
(202) 408-3338 (Voice)
E-mail: NAPSEC@aol.com
URL: <http://www.spedschools.com/napsec.html>

Resource Useful To: Private schools, parents, educators, counselors, and others

NAPSEC is a nonprofit association whose mission is to promote excellence in educational opportunities for children with disabilities by enhancing the role of private special education as a vital component of the nation's educational system. NAPSEC represents over 200 schools that provide special education for both privately and publicly placed children. The organization serves as the national voice in Washington for its membership regarding policies that affect children and youth with disabilities. Membership services include: a free referral service to the public, governmental affairs seminars and educational conferences, a quarterly newsletter, and a monthly *National Issues Service* covering legislative initiatives, regulatory actions, educational issues, and judicial decisions.

NAPSEC provides a free referral service for parents, educators, counselors, and others seeking placement options for students with disabilities. Callers contacting NAPSEC about placement will be provided with a list of current NAPSEC member schools that may be appropriate placements for the student. The individual requesting the information can then contact the schools directly for more information.

National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)

1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 320

Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 519-3800 (Voice); (703) 519-7008 (TTY)

E-mail: specialed@nasdse.org

Resource Useful To: Directors of special education, special educators

Since 1938, NASDSE has served as the focal point for the professionals who have statewide responsibility for the education of exceptional children. NASDSE operates for the purpose of providing services to state agencies to facilitate their efforts to maximize educational outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

To this end, NASDSE considers and acts on current problems and issues related to special education, and assists local, state, and national communities in promoting and enhancing special education. NASDSE has developed numerous products that are geared to education administrators and cover such areas as management, training, legislation, and implementation of legislation. NASDSE also publishes *Counterpoint*, a newspaper dedicated to promoting special education and to informing special educators.

National Clearinghouse for Professions in Special Education

Council for Exceptional Children

1920 Association Drive

Reston, VA 20191-1589

(800) 641-7824 (Voice)

(703) 264-9476 (Voice); (703) 264-9480 (TTY)

E-mail: ncpse@cec.sped.org

URL: <http://www.cec.sped.org/cl-menu.htm>

Resource Useful To: Administrators, special educators, paraprofessionals, those interested in a career in special education

The Clearinghouse is concerned with the supply, demand, recruitment, and retention of qualified special education personnel. To this end, the Clearinghouse

provides information and services to promote an adequate supply of professionals to provide early intervention, special education, and related services to infants, children, and youth with disabilities. Staff collect, analyze, and disseminate information on current and future needs in special education and related services professionals. Information about career opportunities in the disability field is available, as is information about personnel preparation programs, sources of financial aid, and employment. A publications list is available upon request.

National Resource Center for Paraprofessionals in Education and Related Services (NRC)

25 West 43rd Street, Room 620N

New York, NY 10036

(212) 642-2948 (Voice)

Resource Useful To: Paraprofessionals, personnel developers, administrators, employers, program managers

The National Resource Center for Paraprofessionals in Education and Related Services (NRC) was established in 1979 by the New Careers Training Laboratory at the City University of New York. Its mission is to promote increased use of trained paraprofessionals in education and related services. NRC disseminates information for employers, program managers, and trainers on such issues as skills and competencies needed by paraprofessionals, credentialing, new roles, career mobility, and funding sources. The Center also has information on pre- and in-service training models and training materials in use by state and local education agencies and by institutions of higher education.

Office of Indian Education Programs (OIEP)

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

1849 C Street, N.W.

MS-3512-MIB-OIE-23

Washington, DC 20240

(202) 208-3596 (Voice)

Resource Useful To: Anyone interested in Indian education

It is the mission of the Branch of Exceptional Education to assure that Indian children with disabilities, who are between the ages of 5 and 22 and who are enrolled in Bureau-funded schools, have available to them a free appropriate education in the least restrictive environment in accordance with an Individualized Education Program (IEP). This mission includes: monitoring to ensure that the rights of the children with disabilities and their parents or guardians are protected; providing

technical assistance to provide for the education of all children with disabilities; and assessing the effectiveness of efforts to educate children with disabilities.

Regional Resource Centers (RRCs)

Resource Useful To: State education agencies

There are six federally funded Regional Resource Centers (RRCs) in the United States; their names, addresses, and telephone numbers are listed below. These centers provide technical assistance to the State Education Agencies (SEAs) throughout the nation in order to assist each SEA in building its capacity to improve programs for children with disabilities.

Through its respective RRC, each state has timely access to a wide range of current information on research, policies, procedures, and practices concerning the education of children and youth with disabilities. It is up to your state's SEA or Department of Education to request training or technical assistance from your area's RRC.

Great Lakes Area Regional Resource Center (GLARRC)

Center for Special Needs Populations
700 Ackerman Pl., Suite 440
Columbus, OH 43202
(614) 447-0844 (Voice)
E-mail: marshall.76@osu.edu
URL: <http://www.osc.edu/CSNP/GLARRC.HTML>

Service area includes: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, PA, WI

Mid-South Regional Resource Center (MSRRC)

Interdisciplinary Human Development Institute
126 Mineral Industries Building
Lexington, KY 40506-0051
(606) 257-4921 (Voice); (606) 257-2903 (TTY)
E-mail: msrrc@ihdi.uky.edu
URL: <http://www.ihdi.uky.edu/projects/MSRRC>

Service area includes: DC, DE, KY, MD, NC, SC, TN, WV, VA

Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC-UTAH)

Utah State University
1780 N. Research Parkway, Suite 112
Logan, UT 84321
(801) 752-0238 (Voice); (801) 753-9750 (TTY)
E-mail: latham@cc.usu.edu
URL: <http://www.educ.drake.edu/rc/RRC/MPRRC.html>

Service area includes: CO, IA, KS, MO, MT, ND, NE, SD, UT, WY, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

Northeast Regional Resource Center (NERRC)

Trinity College of Vermont, McAuley Hall
208 Colchester Avenue
Burlington, VT 05401-1496
(802) 658-5036 (Voice); (802) 860-1428 (TTY)
E-mail: NERRC@aol.com
URL: <http://interact.uoregon.edu/wrrc/nerrc/index.htm>

Service area includes: CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT

South Atlantic Regional Resource Center (SARRC)

Florida Atlantic University
1236 North University Drive
Plantation, FL 33317
(954) 473-6106 (Voice)
E-mail: sarrc@acc.fau.edu
URL: <http://www.fau.edu/divdept/sarrc/>

Service area includes: AL, AR, GA, FL, LA, MS, NM, OK, TX, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

Western Regional Resource Center (WRRC)

College of Education
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1268
(541) 346-5641 (Voice); (541) 346-0367 (TTY)
E-mail: wrrc@oregon.uoregon.edu
URL: <http://interact.uoregon.edu/wrrc/wrrc.html>

Service area includes: AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas

Resources in Special Education (RiSE)

9738 Lincoln Village Drive

Sacramento, CA 95827

(916) 228-2422 (Voice)

E-mail: megsch@sac-co.k12.ca.us

Resource Useful To: Parents, educators

Resources in Special Education (RiSE) is a special project of the California Department of Education, Division of Special Education. RiSE develops and disseminates information and resources to professionals and parents involved in the education of children with disabilities. Over 130 specialized materials and media on special education topics such as early childhood, restructuring, curriculum reform, and transition are available for purchase. A catalog is available upon request. RiSE publishes a bimonthly newsletter, *The Special EDge*.

See Also:

Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH), page 7

Center for Law and Education, page 12

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), page 3

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), page 12

ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education (ERIC EC), page 4

Family Resource Center on Disabilities, page 8

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education (NCPIE), page 9

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), page 5

Parents Helping Parents, page 10

Parent Training and Information Centers, page 10

Rural Institute on Disabilities

52 Corbin Hall

The University of Montana

Missoula, MT 59812

(406) 243-5467 (Voice/TTY)

(800) 732-0323 (Voice, for Information Service)

E-mail: muarid@selway.umt.edu

Resource Useful To: Persons with disabilities, families, service providers, researchers, policymakers, and other professionals in rural areas

The Montana University Affiliated Rural Institute on Disabilities is an interdisciplinary, university-sponsored organization that promotes full participation in rural life by individuals of all ages with disabilities. The Rural Institute promotes this goal by developing and disseminating innovations in teaching, research, community services, and policy advocacy.

Through a number of special projects, the Rural Institute works to: provide information about rural areas; help individuals with disabilities who live in rural areas to access quality social and educational services and health care; and develop state-of-the-art approaches to meeting the challenges of living with a disability in rural areas. The Institute's projects publish a variety of materials, including books, annotated bibliographies, proceedings of rural conferences, newsletters, and resource directories. A publications list is available upon request.

Transition

**Americans with Disabilities Act
Disability and Business Technical Assistance
Centers (DBTACs)**
(800) 949-4232 (Voice/TTY)

Resource Useful To: Employers, persons with disabilities, others

The Americans with Disabilities Act, signed into law in 1990, is an important piece of federal legislation prohibiting discrimination against persons with disabilities. It also requires most public and private accommodations, buildings, and transportation systems to be accessible to persons with disabilities. For information, materials, or technical assistance, call: (800) 949-4232 (Voice/TTY). Callers are automatically routed to the DBTAC in their region. The DBTACs provide information, referral, technical assistance, and training on the ADA to businesses, state and local governments, and persons with disabilities to facilitate employment for individuals with disabilities and accessibility in public accommodations and government services. The DBTACs also conduct training and promote public awareness on the ADA.

**Association on Higher Education and Disability
(AHEAD)**
P.O. Box 21192
Columbus, OH 43221
(614) 488-4972 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: ahead@postbox.acs.ohiostate.edu
URL: <http://www.ahead.org>

Resource Useful To: Professional disability support personnel, college-bound students with disabilities

AHEAD provides a vehicle to strengthen the professionalism, expertise, and competence of personnel working with postsecondary students who have disabilities. The Association's membership is international, representing residential and nonresidential campuses, and 2-year and 4-year institutions. AHEAD sponsors an annual conference and offers a number of publications, including a newsletter called *ALERT*; a quarterly bulletin (*Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability*); an annotated bibliography of information sources; proceedings of its national conferences; and guides such as

Reflections Through the Looking Glass (on giving quality support to students with disabilities in higher education), *Testing Accommodations for Students with Disabilities* (written for service providers), *Peer Mentoring* (how to create support groups for college students with disabilities), and *How to Choose a College* (for students with disabilities). An employment exchange in the field of disability support services is also available.

HEATH Resource Center

American Council on Education
One Dupont Circle, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036-1193
(800) 544-3284 (Voice/TTY, toll-free outside DC)
(202) 939-9320 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: heath@ace.nche.edu
URL: <http://ace-info-server.nche.edu/Programs/HEATH/home.html>

Resource Useful To: Individuals with disabilities, parents, professionals

The HEATH Resource Center serves as the national clearinghouse on postsecondary education for individuals with disabilities. The Center collects and disseminates information so that people with disabilities can develop their full potential through education and training after high school.

HEATH publishes a newsletter, *Information from HEATH*; several topical directories; and a number of resource papers that focus on specific aspects of education after high school for individuals with disabilities. Topics include accessibility, career development, classroom and laboratory accommodations, counseling, financial aid, functional limitations (vision, hearing, mobility, information processing), and vocational rehabilitation. Subscription to the newsletter and single copies of each publication are free by request. HEATH publications are also available by request in alternate format (cassette or computer disk) for those unable to read conventional print. In addition, HEATH staff are available to respond to inquiries by mail and telephone.

Job Accommodation Network (JAN)

West Virginia University
P.O. Box 6080
Morgantown, WV 26506-6080
(800) 526-7234 (Voice/TTY, toll-free in U.S.)
(800) 526-2262 (Voice/TTY, toll-free in Canada)
(304) 293-7186 (Voice/TTY, local)
E-mail: jan@jan.icdi.wvu.edu
URL: <http://janweb.icdi.wvu.edu>

Resource Useful To: Employers, professionals, individuals with disabilities, families

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a service of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, brings together information from many sources about practical steps employers can take to make accommodations for the functional limitations of employees and applicants with disabilities. JAN has a database containing specific information about how individual tasks can be performed by persons with disabilities. JAN consultants provide technical details and assistance with accommodations and the implementation of products and procedures in the workplace. Information about the Americans with Disabilities Act, as it pertains to employment, is also available from JAN at (800) 232-9675 (Voice/TTY). Information is available in English, French, and Spanish, as well as in braille and large print, and on tape and disk. There is no charge for JAN services.

National Center for Youth with Disabilities

University of Minnesota
General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health
Box 721
420 Delaware St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0392
(612) 626-2825 (Voice); (612) 624-3939 (TTY)
E-mail: ncyd@gold.tc.umn.edu
URL: <http://www.peds.umn.edu/Centers/ncyd>

Resource Useful To: Parents, professionals, health care providers, educators, social workers, social service providers, advocates

NCYD was established as an information and resource center focusing on adolescents with chronic illness and disabilities and the issues surrounding their transition to adult life. NCYD's mission is to raise awareness of the needs of youth with disabilities and to foster coordination and collaboration among agencies, professionals, and youth in planning and providing services. Informa-

tion specialists can conduct searches of the NCYD's National Resource Library database and can provide information about research literature, programs, training/education, and technical assistance. NCYD publishes a newsletter, *CYDLINE Reviews* (a series of topical annotated bibliographies), and *FYI Bulletins* (a series of fact sheets that provide statistical data). NCYD also publishes special reports on issues unique to adolescents and young adults with chronic illness or disability.

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)/ABLEDATA

8455 Colesville Road, Suite 935
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(800) 346-2742 (Voice)
(301) 588-9284 (Voice); (301) 495-5626 (TTY)
URL: <http://www.naric.com/naric>

Resource Useful To: Professionals, service providers, researchers, individuals with disabilities, families

The National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) is a library and information center on disability and rehabilitation. NARIC collects and disseminates the results of federally funded research projects. The collection also includes commercially published books, journal articles, and audiovisual materials. The NARIC bibliographic database, REHABDATA, covers all aspects of the rehabilitation field and includes citations and abstracts of the materials in the Center's collection. NARIC performs customized searches of REHABDATA for a nominal charge. The NARIC database is also available publicly through the NARIC home page. Copies of documents cited in the database may be obtained for a photocopying fee.

In addition to providing bibliographic searches and document delivery, NARIC's information specialists provide quick reference and referral services, helping inquirers locate names, addresses, statistics, and other factual information. NARIC publishes several free publications, including brochures and resource guides. The Center also publishes the *NIDRR Program Directory* and a companion *Compendium of Products*, the *NARIC Guide to Disability and Rehabilitation Periodicals, Directory of National Information Sources on Disabilities*, and the *REHABDATA Thesaurus*.

National Transition Alliance for Youth with Disabilities (NTA)

113 Children's Research Center
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-2325 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: nta@aed.org
URL: <http://www.dssc.org/nta>

Resource Useful To: Transition specialists, model transition project directors, school-to-work specialists, professionals, special educators, administrators, and families

The National Transition Alliance for Youth with Disabilities works to ensure that all youth, especially those with disabilities, acquire skills and knowledge, gain experience, and receive services and supports necessary to achieve successful results in postsecondary education, community living, work, and independent living.

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEPD)

1331 F Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 376-6200 (Voice)
(202) 376-6205 (TTY)
E-mail: info@pcepdp.gov
URL: <http://www.pcepdp.gov>

Resource Useful To: Business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families, and individuals with disabilities

The President's Committee is an independent federal agency. The Committee's mission is to facilitate the communication, coordination, and promotion of public and private efforts to empower Americans with disabilities through employment. The Committee provides information, training, and technical assistance to the audience listed above.

The Committee's information programs include publications dealing with the Americans with Disabilities Act, employment issues, job accommodation, and data relating to people with disabilities. In addition to conducting a national conference on issues related to employment and empowerment of people with disabilities, the Committee sponsors the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a free service that provides information and consulting on accommodating people with disabilities in the workplace (see description of JAN on page 21).

Project ACTION

700 13th Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
(800) 659-6428 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: projaction@aol.com
URL: <http://www.projectaction.org>

Resource Useful To: People with disabilities, transportation providers

Project ACTION (Accessible Community Transportation in Our Nation) is a national program that supports innovation and cooperation in solving transit accessibility problems. Project ACTION works with both the disability community and the transit industry to provide assistance in the implementation of the transportation provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Project ACTION provides various direct forms of technical assistance and training, and maintains a library of information and materials addressing accessible transportation for people with disabilities. Project ACTION disseminates its newsletter *Project ACTION Update*, training curricula, surveys, technical materials, and reports.

Transition Research Institute at Illinois

113 Children's Research Center
51 Gerty Drive
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-2325 (Voice/TTY)
URL: <http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/coe/sped/tri/institute.html>

Resource Useful To: Transition specialists, model transition project directors, school-to-work specialists, professionals, special educators, administrators, families, individuals with disabilities

The ongoing mission of the Transition Research Institute is to define effective practices that will promote the successful transition of youths with disabilities from school to adult life. The Institute is designed to address the theoretical and practical problems of transition, and to organize and conduct a complementary set of activities, including research, evaluation, and evaluation technical assistance. Many publications focusing on transition are available. The Transition Research Institute is a lead partner of the 5-year National Transition Alliance contract (see description above).

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agencies

Consult your local telephone directory for the office in your vicinity.

Resource Useful To: Youth and adults with disabilities

Vocational Rehabilitation is a nationwide federal-state program for assisting eligible people with disabilities to define a suitable employment goal and become employed. The state office will provide callers with the address of the nearest rehabilitation office where persons with a disability can discuss issues of eligibility and services with a counselor. VR provides medical, therapeutic, counseling, education, training, and other services needed to prepare people with disabilities for work. VR is an excellent place for a youth or adult with a disability to begin exploring available training and support service options.

See Also:

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), page 12

National Council on Disability (NCD), page 4

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), page 5

Office of Student Services, page 6

Financial Assistance and Information

Foundation Center

79 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10003
(800) 424-9836 (Voice); (212) 620-4230 (Voice)
URL: <http://fdncenter.org>

Resource Useful To: Nonprofit organizations

This is a national service organization providing information on grants, loans, and funding from foundation programs available to nonprofit organizations. The Center has offices in San Francisco, Washington, Cleveland, and Atlanta. Through its Library Services (which includes the national collections at the field offices and a network of over 200 cooperating libraries throughout the United States), grant-seekers have free access to core Center publications and the Foundation Center's Database on CD-Rom, plus a wide range of books, periodicals, and research documents relating to foundations and philanthropy. The Center publishes extensively (a catalog is available upon request), including many guides to available grants for children, youth, and families; women and girls; those with physical and mental disabilities; education; social services; aids; and more.

HEAR NOW, Inc.

9745 East Hampden Avenue, Suite 300
Denver, CO 80231-4923
(800) 648-HEAR (Voice)
(303) 695-7797 (Voice/TTY)
E-mail: hearnow@charitiesusa.com
URL: <http://www.leisurelan.com/~hearno>

Resource Useful To: Individuals with hearing impairments

HEAR NOW is a national, nonprofit organization serving children and adults with hearing impairments throughout the United States. HEAR NOW, in partnership with hearing health care professionals, provides hearing aids and cochlear implants to people with limited financial resources. Applications for assistance may be obtained by calling 1-800-648-HEAR.

National Foundation for Consumer Credit

8611 Second Avenue, Suite 100
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(800) 388-2227 (Voice); (301) 589-5600 (Voice)
E-mail: nfcc.hq@aol.com
URL: <http://www.nfcc.org>

Resource Useful To: Families with financial problems

The National Foundation for Consumer Credit provides debt counseling services to families and individuals with serious financial problems. It is not a lending institution

or a charity organization. Its activities are supported by funds donated by banks, consumer finance companies, credit unions, merchants, and other community-minded firms and individuals. Nonprofit Consumer Credit Counseling Services provides assistance throughout the country by helping families to manage their money better (e.g., setting up a realistic budget and planning for expenditures) to prevent debt problems. Counseling is usually provided free or at nominal cost.

National Patient Air Transport Hotline (NPATH)

P.O. Box 1940
Manassas, VA 20108-0804
(800) 296-1217 (Voice)
E-mail: npathmsg@aol.com
URL: <http://www.npath.org>

Resource Useful To: Those persons in medical and financial crisis who need air medical transportation to distant facilities for specialized diagnosis or medical treatment, rehabilitation, or continuing care

The National Patient Air Transport Hotline (NPATH) is a national charitable hotline that helps callers learn about the various charitable medical air transport options available to meet a patient's specific needs. Referrals are made to all known appropriate charitable, charitably assisted, and special patient discount commercial services based on an evaluation of the patient's medical condition, type of transport required, and departure/destination locations. NPATH is the nation's only "single source" of referral information on the full spectrum of long-distance air medical transport options.

Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children

2900 Rocky Point Drive
Tampa, FL 33607-1435
(800) 237-5055 (Voice); (813) 281-0300 (Voice)
URL: <http://www.shrinershq.org>

Resource Useful To: Children with orthopedic impairments, children with burns, and their families

Now 19 Shriner orthopedic hospitals and 3 burn institutes serve children under the age of 18 in the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. The burn institutes accept children who need immediate care or those needing plastic surgery and rehabilitation (healed burns). Diagnosis and treatment are offered solely on the basis of medical and financial need, at no charge to the patient's family. Eligibility for treatment is determined on the basis of applications completed by parents or guardians, the referring physician, and a local Shriner sponsor.

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Department of Health and Human Services
Baltimore, MD 21235
(800) 772-1213 (Voice); (800) 325-0778 (TTY)
Check for a local office in your area.
URL: <http://www.ssa.gov>

Resource Useful To: Individuals with disabilities

The Social Security Administration provides cash benefits (SSI and/or SSDI) to persons with physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from working and that are expected to last at least a year or be terminal. Eligibility for SSI or SSDI may mean eligibility for other services, such as Medicaid, food stamps, or other social services. The amount of money and services received varies in each state. The program also includes work incentives that make it possible for individuals to work without an immediate loss of benefits. To be eligible for SSI payments as a child, an individual must be under age 18 (or under 22 if he or she is a full-time student), unmarried, and meet the applicable SSI disability, income, and resource criteria.

University Affiliated Programs (UAPs)

Resource Useful To: Health care professionals and paraprofessionals, individuals with disabilities and their families

UAPs provide interdisciplinary training for professionals and paraprofessionals and offer programs and services for children with disabilities and their families. Some UAPs provide direct services for children and families. Individual UAPs have staff who can provide information, technical assistance, and inservice training to agencies, service providers, parent groups, and others. A listing of all UAPs and additional information is available by contacting the American Association of University Affiliated Programs for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (AAUAPs), 8630 Fenton Street, Suite 410, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Telephone: (301) 588-8252 (Voice); (301) 588-2842 (TTY). E-mail: loudenburg@aol.com. URL: www.waisman.wisc.edu/aaup.

See Also:

Office of Minority Health Resource Center, page 26

Organizations Addressing Minority Concerns

Center for Minority Special Education (CMSE)

114 Phenix Hall
Hampton University
Hampton, VA 23668
(800) 241-1441 (Voice); (757) 727-5100 (Voice)
E-mail: cmse@cs.hamptonu.edu

Resource Useful To: Colleges and universities with at least 25 percent minority enrollment

The Center for Minority Special Education (CMSE) was developed to respond directly to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) mandate to "provide outreach services to minority entities and underrepresented populations to assist them in participating more fully in the discretionary programs under the Act." The Center provides an array of outreach services to minority entities—defined as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other institutions of higher education serving at least 25 percent minority students (OMIs), which includes Tribal Colleges. The mission of the Center is to assist, support, and enable HBCUs, OMIs, and Tribal Colleges to: (a) increase their capacity to contribute to the advancement of a professional knowledge base; and (b) increase each institution's capacity to participate in federal, state, and local initiatives.

Clearinghouse for Immigrant Education (CHIME)

100 Boylston Street, Suite 737
Boston, MA 02116
(800) 441-7192 (Voice); (617) 357-8507 (Voice)
E-mail: ncasmfe@aol.com

Resource Useful To: Educators, advocates, school administrators, parents

The Clearinghouse for Immigrant Education (CHIME) is a resource center to facilitate access to materials, organizations, and people concerned with the effective education of immigrant students and issues of equity in education for all students. CHIME staff can provide specific information about relevant literature, descriptions of effective programs, and names of organizations and experts, as well as more general advice and support. Information and referral are also available regarding the educational needs of immigrants with disabilities.

National Clearinghouse for Bilingual Education (NCBE)

1118 22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037
(202) 467-0867 (Voice)
Fax requests to: (800) 531-9347; (202) 467-4283
E-mail: askncbe@ncbe.gwu.edu
URL: <http://www.ncbe.gwu.edu>

Resource Useful To: Administrators, parents, educators working with bilingual or limited English proficient students, others

NCBE is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Languages Affairs (OBELMA) for the purpose of providing practitioners with information on the education of limited English proficient (LEP) students. NCBE information services are available to individuals or organizations responsible for or interested in the education of these students. Information about the needs of bilingual or LEP students with disabilities is also available, including the publication *Using Interpreters and Translators to Meet the Needs of Handicapped Language Minority Students and Their Families*. A publication list is available upon request.

National Clearinghouse for ESL Literacy Education (NCLE)

Center for Applied Linguistics
1118 22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037
(202) 429-9292, ext. 200 (Voice)
E-mail: ncle@cal.org
URL: <http://www.cal.org/NCLE>

Resource Useful To: Families, educators working with limited English proficient adults and out-of-school youth

NCLE is the only national clearinghouse for adult English as a second language (ESL) and literacy information. NCLE collects, analyzes, and abstracts documents for the ERIC database on literacy education for adults and out-of-school youth with limited English proficiency (LEP). Included in ERIC are research reports, instructional and assessment materials, program descriptions and evaluations, and teacher/tutor training guides. Educators can contact NCLE for free publications about working with LEP adults and out-of-school youth with literacy problems. *NCLE Notes* is a free

newsletter published by NCLE. While no specific publications are available concerning working with LEP individuals who have a disability, NCLE has a free digest available: *ESL for Learning Disabled Adults*.

National Council of La Raza (NCLR)

1111 19th Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 785-1670 (Voice)

Resource Useful To: Hispanic community-based organizations, and organizations and individuals interested in issues of importance to Hispanics

NCLR provides technical assistance and support to an affiliate network of more than 160 Hispanic community-based organizations (CBOs) serving more than two million Hispanics annually in 37 states. NCLR also works with Hispanic CBOs that are not formally affiliated with NCLR, as well as non-Hispanic organizations, elected/appointed officials, academicians and researchers, and other individuals interested in issues important to Hispanics. NCLR serves as a "think tank" on public policy issues, generating information for public- and private-sector policymakers, the Hispanic community, and the media on such issues as: education, poverty, health, civil rights enforcement, immigration, employment and training, the elderly, and housing and community development.

Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMH-RC)

Office of Minority Health, Public Health Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 37337
Washington, DC 20013-7337
(800) 444-6472 (Voice); (301) 587-9704 (Voice)
(301) 589-0951 (TTY)
E-mail: info@omhrc.gov
URL: <http://www.omhrc.gov>

Resource Useful To: Professionals, the general public

The Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMH-RC) assists health professionals and the general public in identifying free and low-cost health-related information resources that target minority audiences (Asian/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and American Indians/Alaska Natives). The Center provides information on HIV/AIDS, cancer, nutrition, men's health, homicide/suicide, infant mortality, and unintentional injuries. The Center maintains a computerized database of minority health-related materials,

organizations, and programs, as well as a network of active professionals who provide technical assistance to minority-based community organizations, volunteer groups, and individuals. The Center can handle calls in English and Spanish.

The Center produces a newsletter called *Closing the Gap*, which highlights minority health issues and carries news about the Center. Copies are available for free.

See Also:

- Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability, page 2
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), page 3
- National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), page 5
- Office of Indian Education Programs (OIEP), page 17

Index of Organizations

- ACCENT on Information, 7
- Access/Abilities, 7
- Activating Children through Technology (ACTT), 14
- American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES), 16
- Americans with Disabilities Act Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers (DBTACs), 20
- ARCH National Resource Center for Respite and Crisis Care Services, 2
- Association for the Care of Children's Health (ACCH), 7
- Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH), 7
- Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD), 20
- Beach Center on Families and Disability, 8
- Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability, 2
- Center for Human disAbilities, 3
- Center for Law and Education, 12
- Center for Minority Special Education (CMSE), 25
- Children's Defense Fund (CDF), 12
- Clearinghouse for Immigrant Education (CHIME), 25
- Communication and Information Services, 3
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), 3

Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE), 16

Council on Quality and Leadership in Supports for People with Disabilities, 3

Courage Center, 8

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), 12

Disability Statistics Rehabilitation, Research and Training Center, 4

ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education, 4

Family Resource Center on Disabilities, 8

Federal Resource Center for Special Education, 16

Federation for Children with Special Needs, 9

Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, 9

Foundation Center, 23

Head Start, 14

HEAR NOW Inc., 23

HEATH Resource Center, 20

Job Accommodation Network (JAN), 21

Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 12

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), 14

National Association of Private Schools for Exceptional Children (NAPSEC), 16

National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems (NAPAS), 13

National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE), 17

National Center for Children in Poverty, 14

National Center for Youth with Disabilities, 21

National Clearinghouse for Bilingual Education (NCBE), 25

National Clearinghouse for Professions in Special Education, 17

National Clearinghouse for ESL Literacy Education (NCLE), 25

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education (NCPIE), 9

National Coalition of Title I Chapter I Parents, 9

National Council of La Raza, 26

National Council on Disability (NCD), 4

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System (NEC*TAS), 15

National Easter Seal Society, 4

National Foundation for Consumer Credit, 23

National Health Law Program, 13

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY), 5

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), 5

National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse, 5

National Organization on Rare Disorders (NORD), 5

National Parent Network on Disabilities (NPND), 10

National Parent to Parent Support and Information System, Inc., 10

National Patient Air Transport Hotline (NPATH), 24

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC), 21

National Resource Center for Paraprofessionals in Education and Related Services (NRC), 17

National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health, 6

National Transition Alliance for Youth with Disabilities (NTA), 22

Office of Indian Education Programs (OIEP), 17

Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMH-RC), 26

Office of Student Services, 6

Parents Helping Parents: The Parent-Directed Family Resource Center for Children with Special Needs, 10

Parent Training and Information (PTI) Centers, 10

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, 22

Project ACTION, 22

Regional Resource Centers (RRCs), 18

Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children's Mental Health, 6

Resources in Special Education, 19

Rural Institute on Disabilities, 19

Scottish Rite Centers, 15

Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, 24

Social Security Administration (SSA), 24

Technical Assistance for Parent Programs (TAPP), 11

Transition Research Institute, 22

University Affiliated Programs (UAPs), 24

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies, 23

ZERO TO THREE/National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families, 15

NICHCY News Digest is published several times a year in response to questions from individuals and organizations that contact the Clearinghouse. In addition, NICHCY disseminates other materials and can respond to individual requests for information. For further information and assistance, or to receive a *NICHCY Publications Catalog*, contact NICHCY, P.O. Box 1492, Washington, DC 20013. Telephone: 1-800-695-0285 (Voice/TTY) and (202) 884-8200 (Voice/TTY). Visit our Web site (<http://www.nichcy.org>) or our gopher (gopher aed.org). You can send us e-mail at: nichcy@aed.org.

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Project Director Suzanne Ripley
Editor Lisa Küpper
Associate Editor Mary Kate Conroy

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



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